

MARVEL

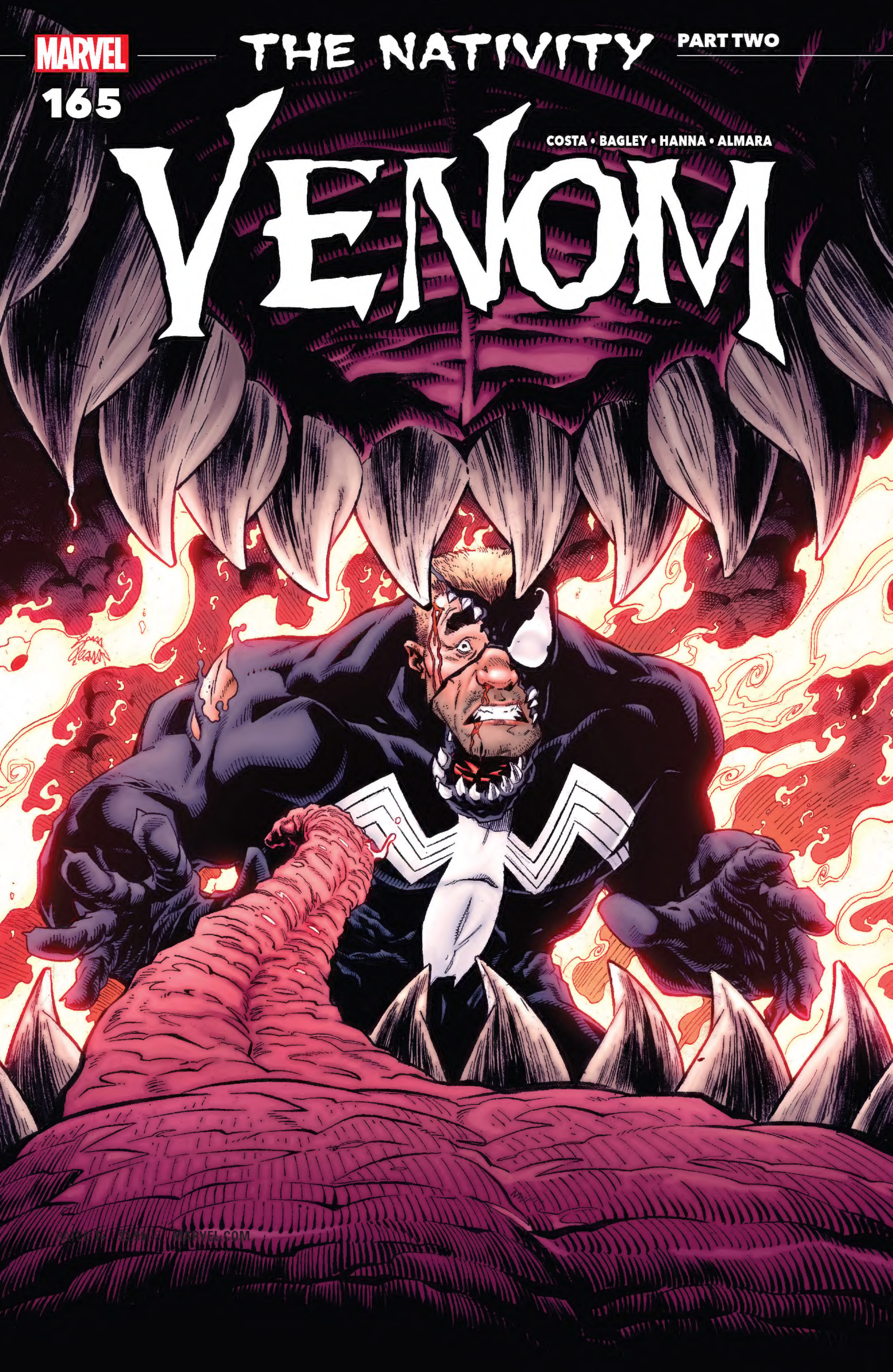
165

THE NATIVITY

PART TWO

VENOM

COSTA • BAGLEY • HANNA • ALMARA



YEARS AGO, PETER PARKER (A.K.A. THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN) ACCIDENTALLY BONDED WITH AN ALIEN BEING CALLED A SYMBIOTE. WHEN PETER REALIZED THE COSTUME WAS ACTUALLY AN AGGRESSIVE LIVING ORGANISM, HE REJECTED IT. BUT DURING THEIR TIME TOGETHER, THE SYMBIOTE HAD ACCESS TO SPIDER-MAN'S GENETIC CODE AND NOW GRANTS WHOMEVER IT BONDS WITH SKILLS SIMILAR TO HIS: WALL-CRAWLING, THE POWER TO GENERATE BIOORGANIC WEBBING AND UNIQUE ABILITIES TO SHAPE-SHIFT AND BECOME INVISIBLE, TURNING THEM INTO...

VENOM



THE NATIVITY **PART TWO**

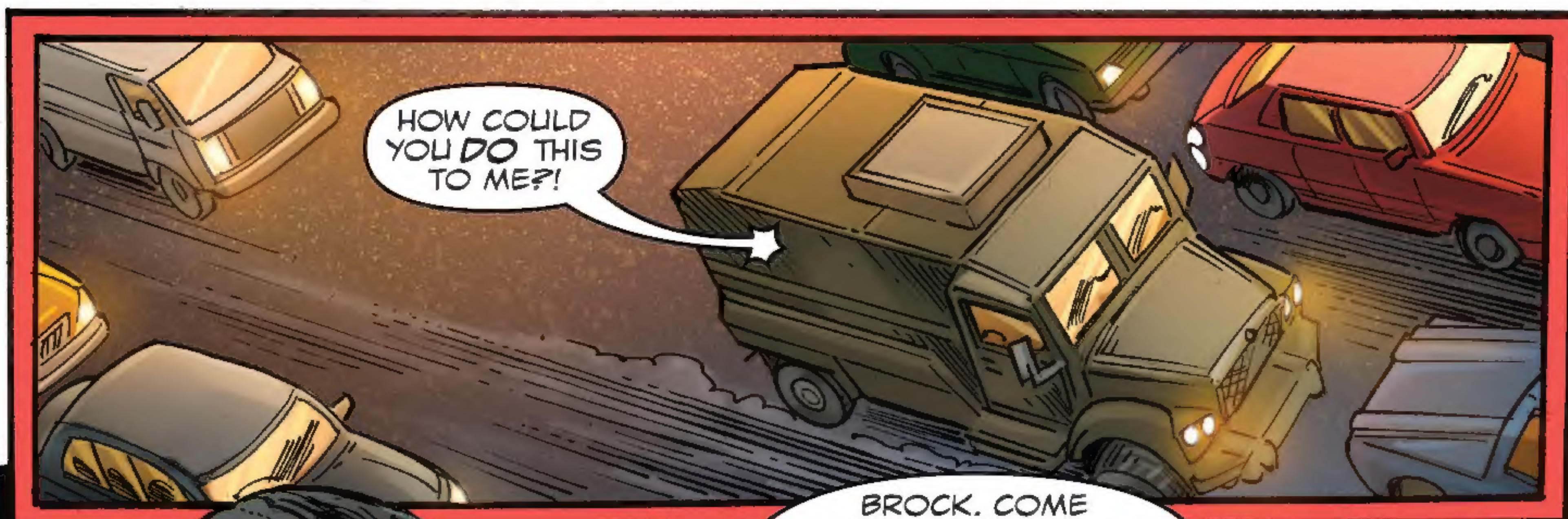
EDDIE BROCK AND THE *VENOM* SYMBIOTE HAVE BEEN REUNITED! BUT THE SYMBIOTE'S ERRATIC BEHAVIOR HAS MADE IT DIFFICULT FOR EDDIE TO PROVE THEIR RENEWED HEROISM TO THE PUBLIC.

FOR A TIME, EDDIE WORKED FOR THE FBI ON AN ANTI-SYMBIOTE TASK FORCE. ONE OF HIS TEAMMATES, AGENT *CLAIRE DIXON*, DIED IN HIS ARMS, BUT IS NOW SEEMINGLY RESURRECTED, WITH VENOM IN HER CROSSHAIRS!

CLAIRE CAPTURED EDDIE AND HIS EXTRATERRESTRIAL OTHER AND REVEALED A SECRET THE SYMBIOTE HAS BEEN KEEPING FROM EDDIE--THE CREATURE IS ABOUT TO SPAWN!

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HOW COULD YOU DO THIS TO ME?!

BROCK. COME ON. WE WERE IN A **MILITARY UNIT** TOGETHER, NOT A **MARRIAGE**. IF A SOLDIER GOES ROGUE, YOU KNOW WHAT HAPPENS.

SORRY, EDDIE. WAS SCARED.

I DON'T CARE ABOUT THAT. I JUST CAN'T BELIEVE YOU DIDN'T TELL ME.

WHEN YOU WERE STILL WORKING WITH THE FBI YOU DIDN'T HAVE THE **CLEARANCE**, AND AFTER YOU **ESCAPED** WITH A **STOLEN ALIEN** YOU FORGOT TO LEAVE AN **E-MAIL ADDRESS**.

NEVER LIED TO YOU, EDDIE... WAS HOPING YOU'D KNOW. YOU'D FEEL IT.

WELL, I NEVER FELT ANYTHING.

"NEVER FELT ANYTHING"? THAT'S PRETTY HARSH...

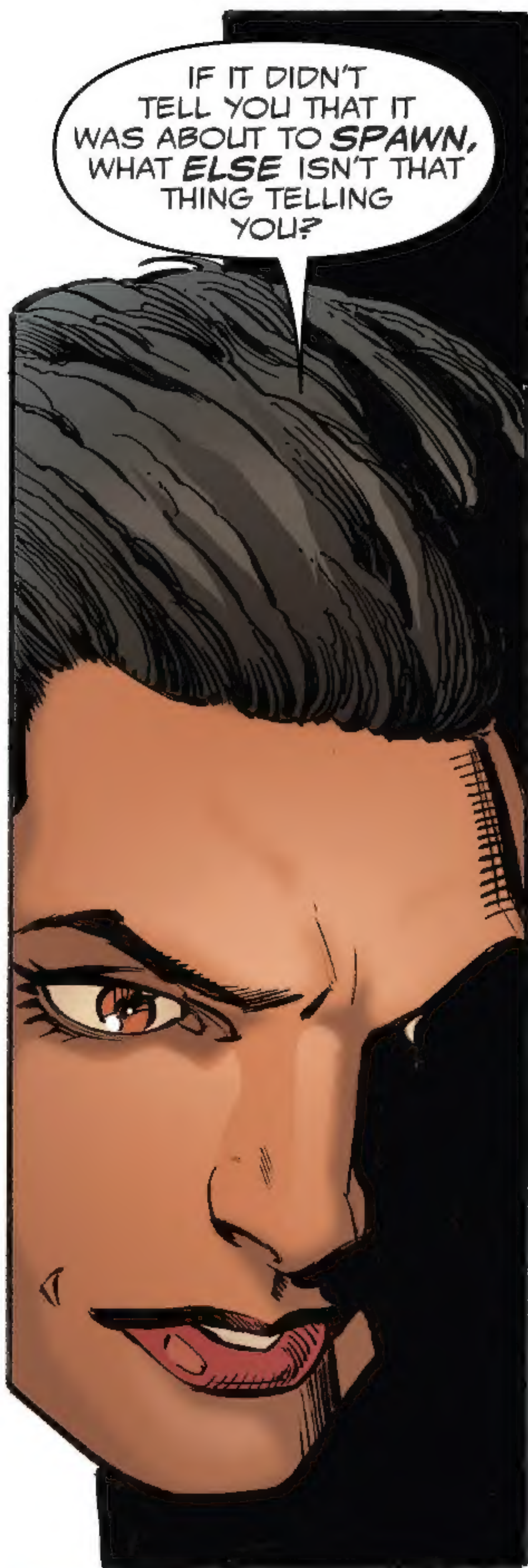
OH. YOU'RE NOT TALKING TO ME, ARE YOU?



YOU'RE TALKING TO YOUR SUIT. YOUR... OTHER.



YOU DIDN'T KNOW, DID YOU?



IF IT DIDN'T
TELL YOU THAT IT
WAS ABOUT TO **SPAWN**,
WHAT **ELSE** ISN'T THAT
THING TELLING
YOU?



DON'T LISTEN, EDDIE!
DIDN'T TELL BECAUSE OF
FEAR. TOO MANY BABIES
WERE **MONSTERS**.

DON'T TALK
ABOUT--NNGH--
US LIKE YOU
KNOW US.



BUT I KNOW
SYMBIOTES, BROCK.
I HAD ONE FUSED TO
MY NERVOUS SYSTEM,
CONTROLLING MY
EVERY MOVE,
REMEMBER?

IT GOT ME
KILLED IN SOME
GODFORSAKEN
JUNGLE.



THEN
HOW ARE YOU
HERE?

IT
WAS THE
DARKHOLD,
WASN'T IT? THAT
VOODOO BOOK
OF BLACK
MAGIC.

IT HAD
SOME **EFFECT** ON
YOU, AND THAT'S WHY
YOU COULDN'T STAY DEAD.
I'M NOT THE **ONLY** ONE
WITH SOME DARK
SECRETS...



...AM I?



OKAY,
THAT'S ENOUGH
OF THIS.



I'M
FEELING LEFT
OUT.

GARGAN?

DIXON, WHAT'S
HE DOING HERE?
HOW CAN YOU WORK
WITH THIS
PSYCHO?

I'M THE PSYCHO? BROCK,
YOU WERE DROOLING AND
SCREAMING ABOUT EATING
BRAINS WHEN I WAS STILL
ROBBING BANKS.

DON'T ACT
LIKE YOU'RE
BETTER THAN
ME.

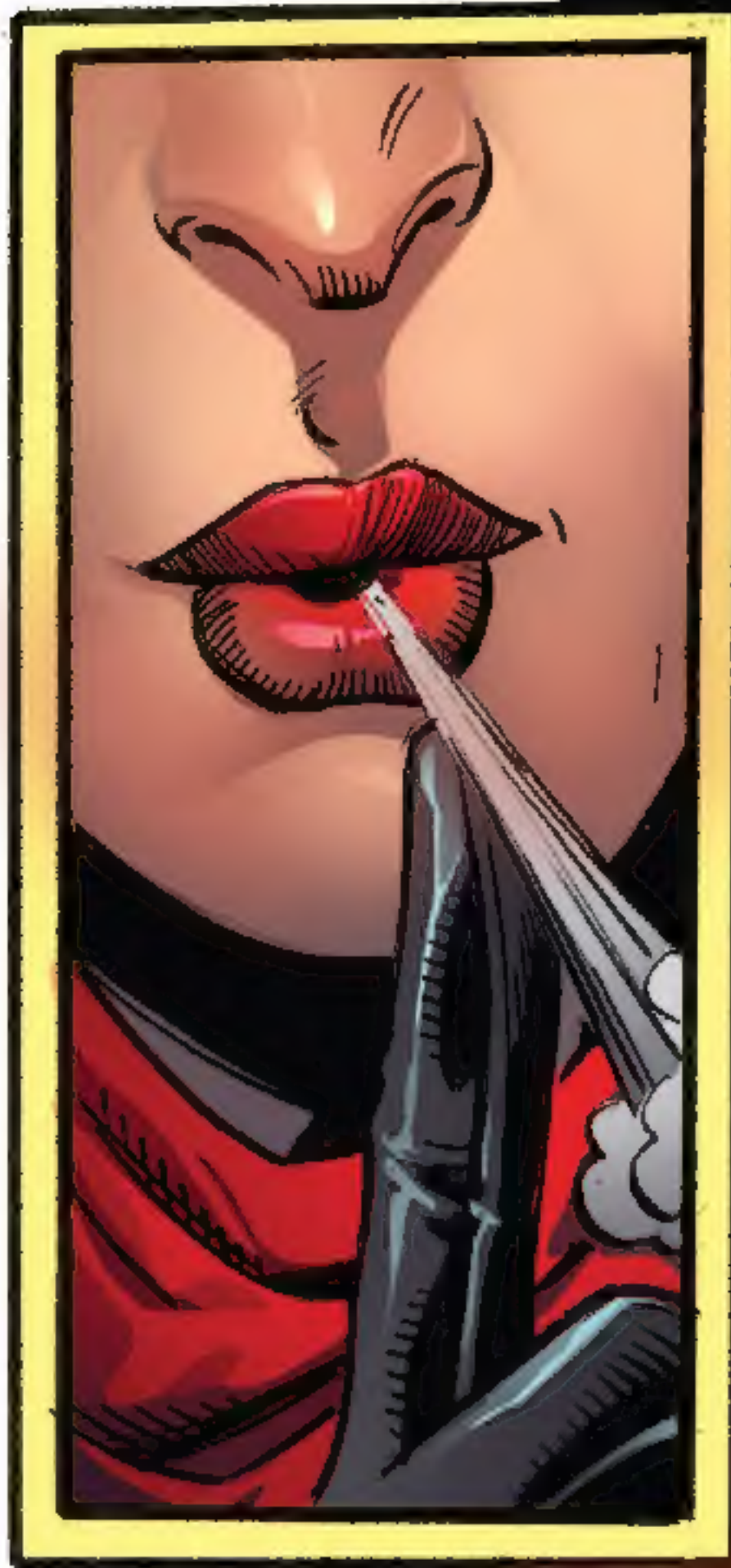
EDDIE! CAN'T
LET THEM
HAVE THE
BABY! CAN'T
LET IT BE A
MONSTER!

WHAT'S THE
DEAL? YOU PULL HIM
OUT OF **PRISON** AGAIN
AND HE LETS YOU ATTACH HIM
TO A SYMBIOTE AND RUN
ANY EXPERIMENT YOU
WANT ON HIM?

WHY ARE
WE **LISTENING** TO
THIS? NOTHING SAYS
THE MAN HAS TO STAY
CONSCIOUS
FOR--

HE'S
EXPERIENCED,
BROCK. AND
CONTROLLABLE.
YOU LEFT THE
PROGRAM.





HEY. I HEARD
SOMEBODY PREGNANT WAS
GETTING **KIDNAPPED** IN
HERE.
YOU CAN IMAGINE
I'D HAVE A **PROBLEM**
WITH THAT.

SPIDER-
WOMAN?!
HERE?!



GARGAN!
STOP!



SORRY,
NOT HERE TO
DANCE...



...THIS IS
A **BREAK-
OUT.**



DON'T
SHOOT THAT
THING IN HERE,
GARGAN. YOU
MIGHT HIT--

HOLD ON,
BROCK.



GET THAT
ALIEN TO
SOFTEN YOUR
LANDING.

TYPICAL.

SKREE

YOU TOLD HER
YOU WERE GOING
TO SPAWN?

DIDN'T TELL. MADE
HER FEEL. MADE HER
UNDERSTAND. LIKE I
TRIED WITH YOU! SHE
UNDERSTOOD!

SHE'S A NICE
LADY, EDDIE.



NOW.
ABOUT THAT
DANCE.



MISS,
DON'T MAKE
ME--

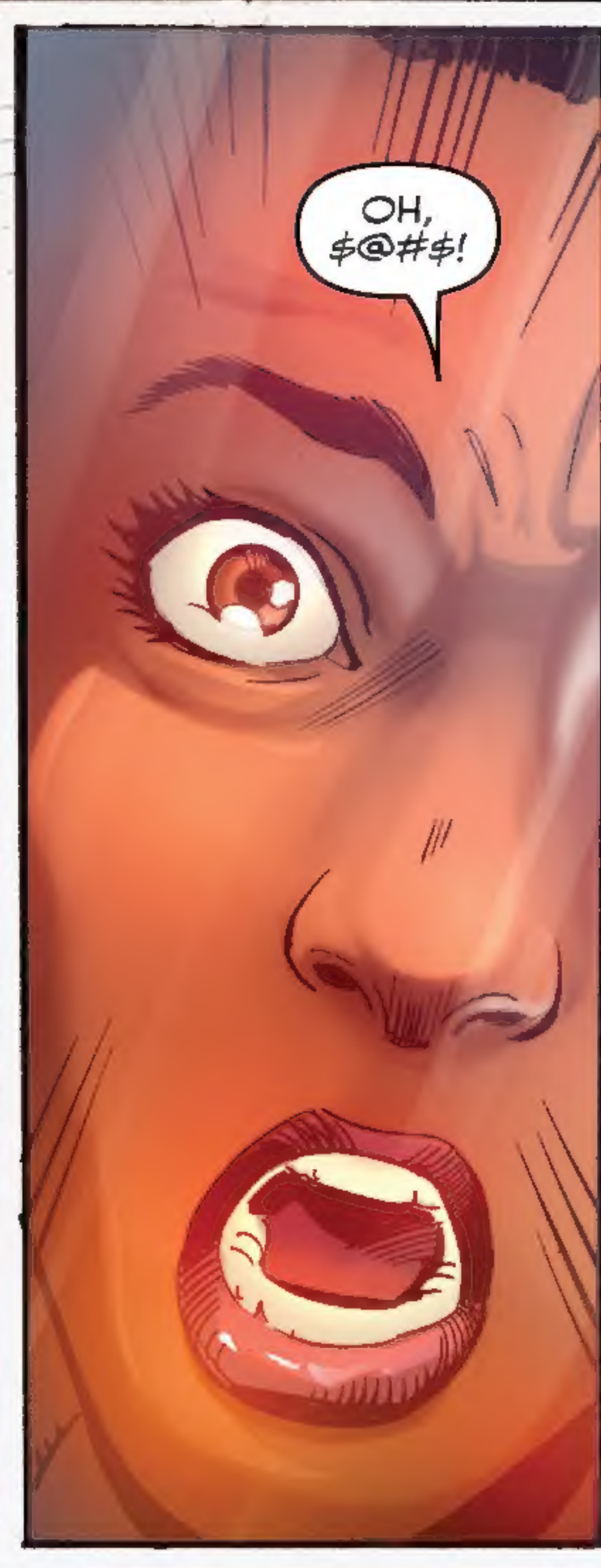


--HURT--



--YUH--!

KRAK





OH,
CRAP.

SPIDER-
WOMAN! LEAVE
IT!

THE CIVILIANS WILL
BE **FINE**. THOSE PEOPLE
WORK WITH THE **MILITARY**
AND WERE ONLY INTERESTED
IN **ONE THING**.

IF WE
DON'T GET OUT OF
HERE **NOW**, YOU'RE
GOING TO BE BRAWLING
WITH **COPS** AND
FBI...

...AND **BOTH**
OF US WILL
END UP IN
CUSTODY.



YOU'RE
LUCKY I HAVE
SUCH A **SOFT**
SPOT FOR **UNBORN**
BABIES,
BROCK.



LIGH.
OW.



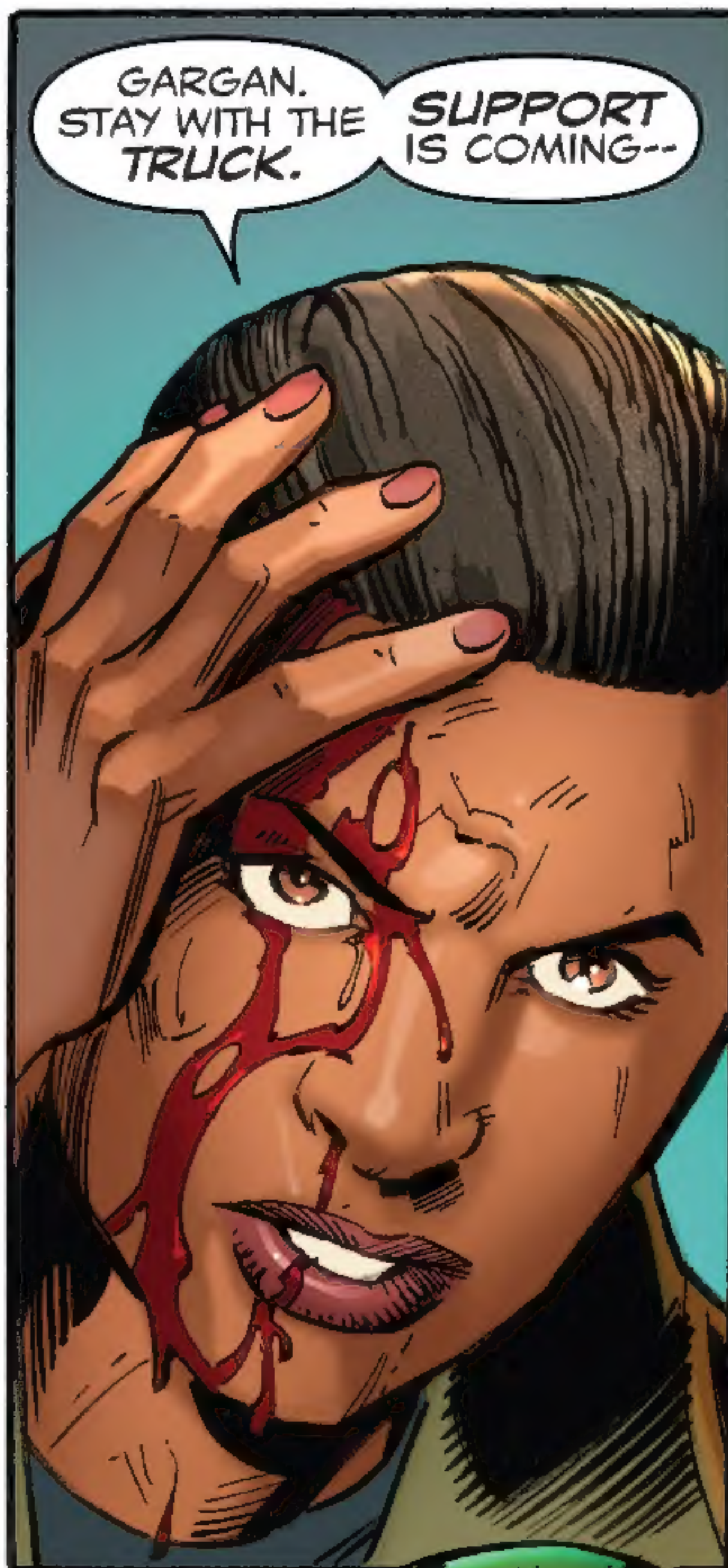


WHERE DID THEY GO?!



DID YOU SEE?

WHICH WAY?



GARGAN. STAY WITH THE TRUCK.

SUPPORT IS COMING--



#&%/& SUPPORT! I WAS PROMISED HIS SUIT!



I'M NOT GOING TO LET HIM TAKE WHAT'S MINE.



THANK YOU, SPIDER-WOMAN. OBVIOUSLY MY OTHER TRUSTS **YOU** MORE THAN **ME**.

I DIDN'T EVEN KNOW WE WERE... **EXPECTING**.

THE ONLY REASON IT DID WHAT IT DID WAS TO SAVE YOU. I WAS GOING TO DRAG YOUR KEISTER TO **JAIL**.

IT SHOWED ME-- IN MY HEAD--THAT ITS **PREVIOUS** CHILDREN HAD ALL BECOME **MONSTERS**.

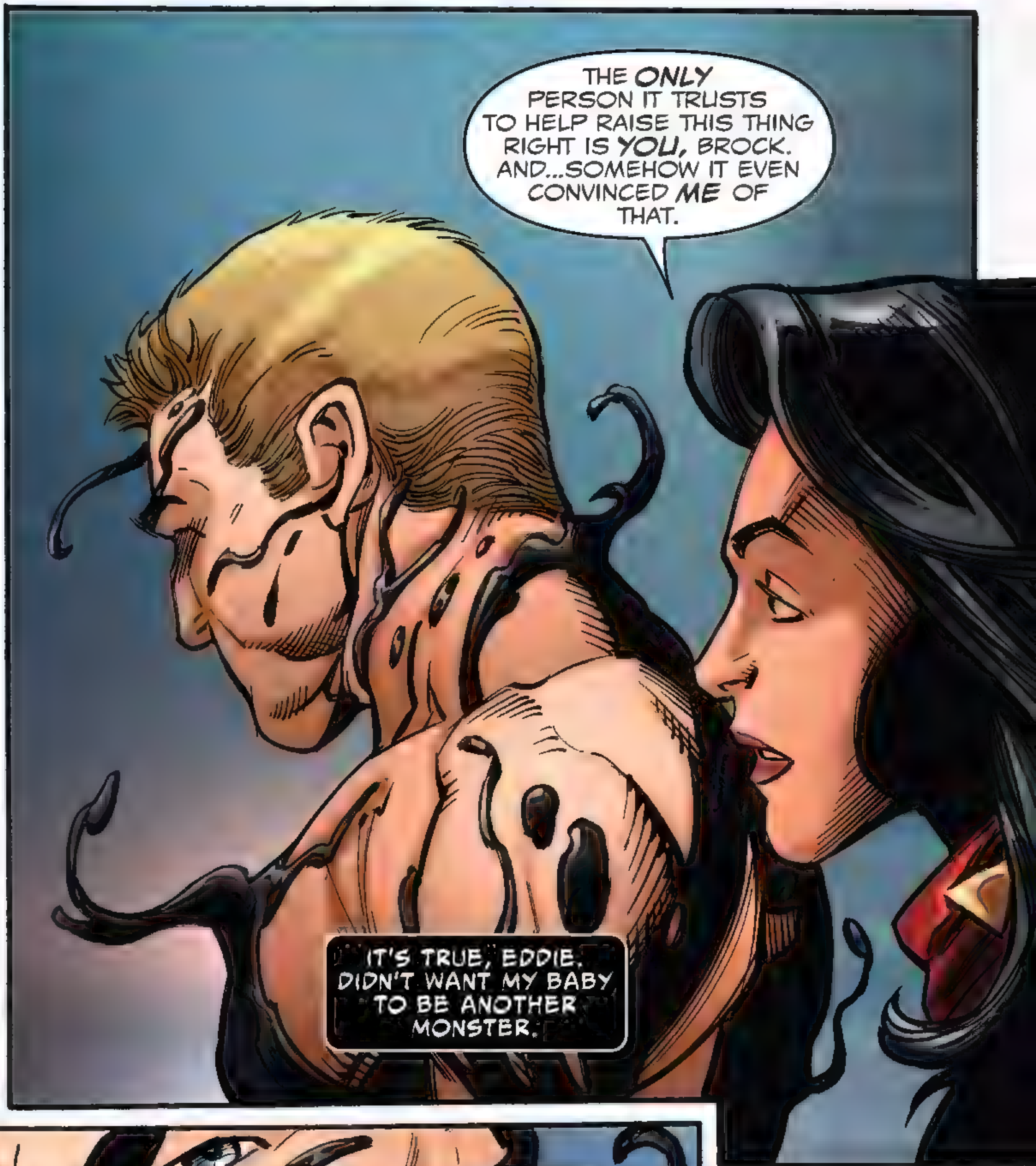
HAD TO SHOW HER, EDDIE. TO SAVE US. WAS GOING TO TELL YOU, BUT--

SHUT UP.



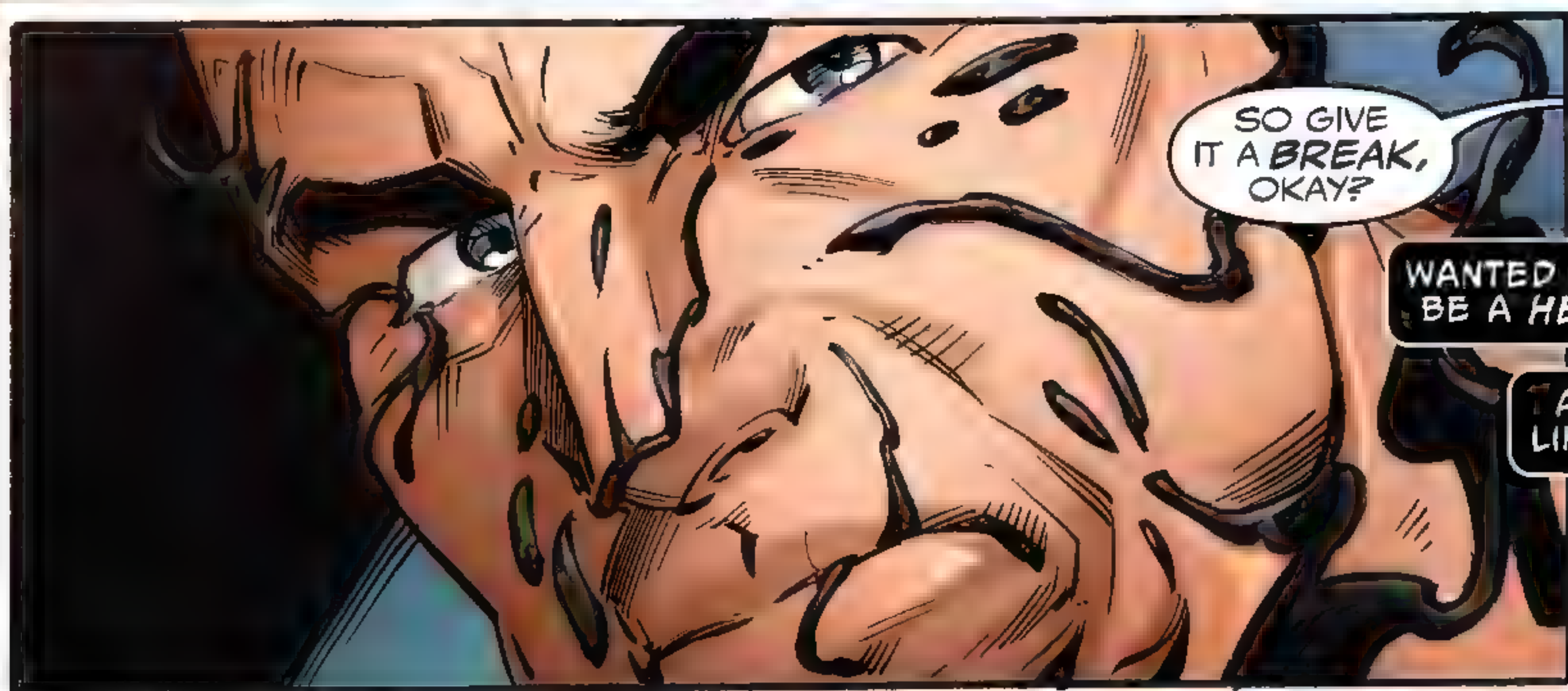
HEY, TAKE IT EASY ON YOUR... "OTHER"?

IT DIDN'T "TELL" ME ANYTHING, BUT I **UNDERSTOOD**.



THE ONLY PERSON IT TRUSTS TO HELP RAISE THIS THING RIGHT IS **YOU**, BROCK. AND...SOMEHOW IT EVEN CONVINCED ME OF THAT.

IT'S TRUE, EDDIE. DIDN'T WANT MY BABY TO BE ANOTHER **MONSTER**.



SO GIVE IT A **BREAK**, OKAY?

WANTED IT TO BE A **HERO**.

A **HERO** LIKE **YOU**!

LIKE **VENOM**.



WAIT,
SO THAT'S
IT?

WE THANK
YOU, BUT WE
HAVE...

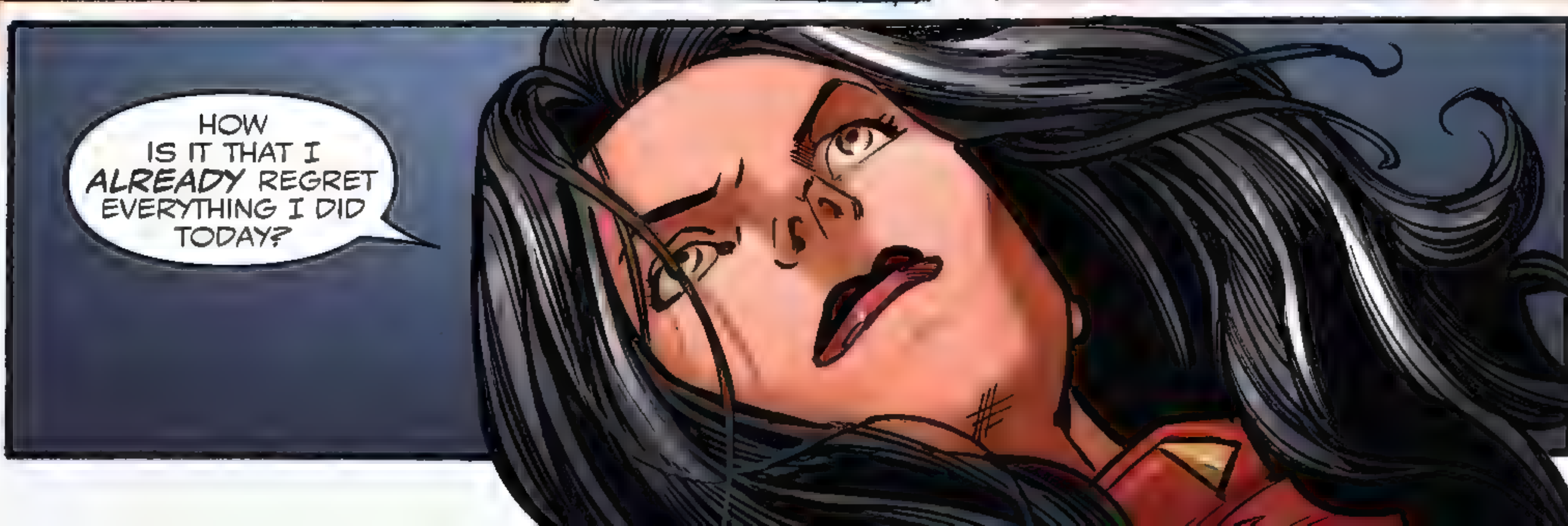
...MUCH TO
DISCUSS.

AND
FIRST WE
NEED TO FIND
THE PERSON WHO
BETRAYED
US--

--WHO TOLD
THE SYMBIOTE
TASK FORCE ABOUT
OUR IMPENDING
CHILD...



...AND
DEAL WITH
HIM.



HOW
IS IT THAT I
ALREADY REGRET
EVERYTHING I DID
TODAY?



SIX THOUSAND-
OH-TWENTY-TWO ONE
TIMES TEN TWENTEE-
THREE--

HOW MANY ATOMS,
AVAGANDROHHH?*

*SLUNG TO THE TUNE
OF "SEASONS OF
LOVE" FROM RENT.

WHAT ABOUT--
MOHOHOLLES?***

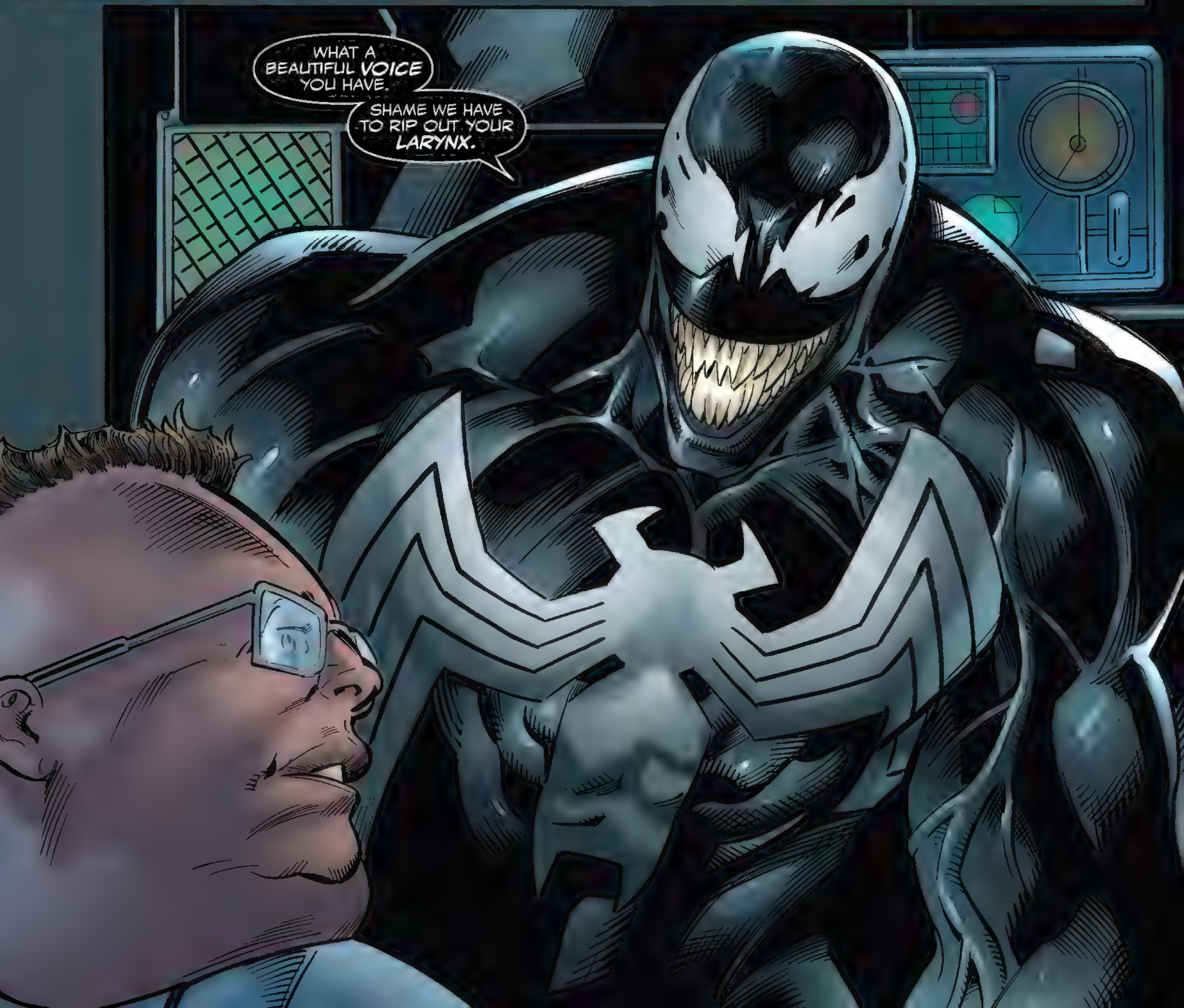
***DUH, IT'S THE
CHORUS. DR.
STEVE'S A NEW
YORKER AND
LOVES MUSICAL
THEATER.



WHAT IN THE
WORLD...?

WHAT A
BEAUTIFUL VOICE
YOU HAVE.

SHAME WE HAVE
TO RIP OUT YOUR
LARYNX.





WE HAVEN'T BEEN HERE IN WEEKS...BUT STILL, YOU WERE THE ONLY PERSON TO EXAMINE US--DO EXPERIMENTS ON US.

YOU KNEW A CHILD WAS COMING, YOU KNEW WEEKS AGO AND DIDN'T TELL US.



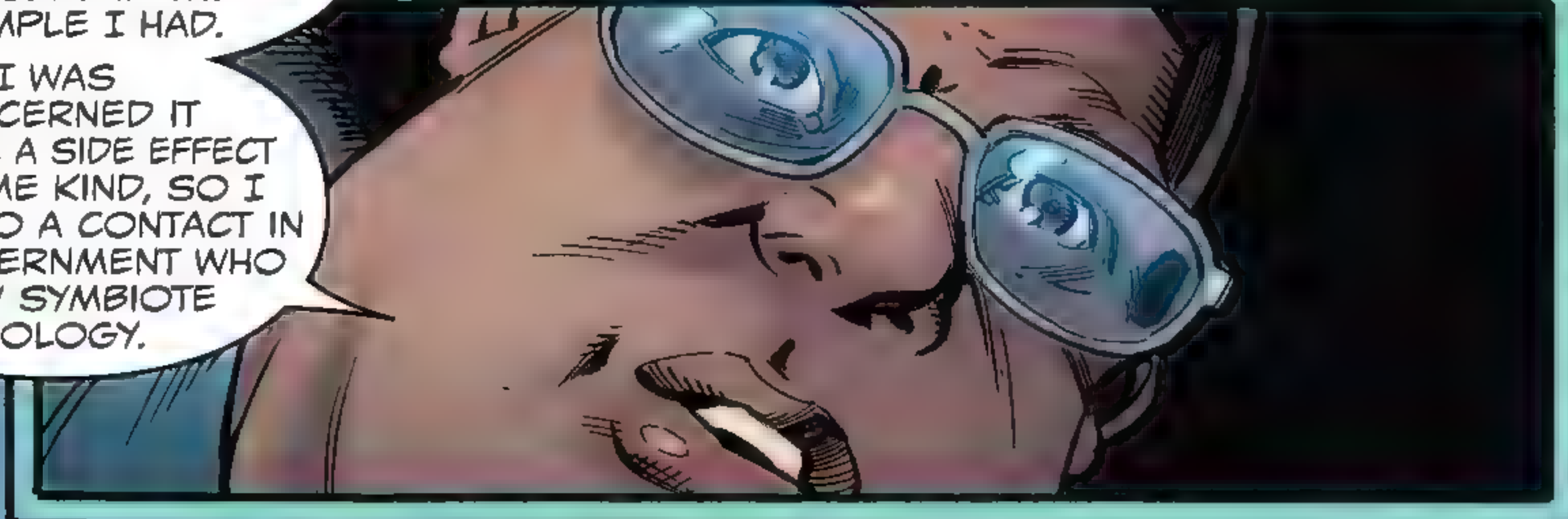
WHY DID YOU TELL THEM?

I DIDN'T. OR...

I DIDN'T KNOW I DID.

AFTER YOUR SYMBIOTE'S METABOLIC ISSUE CORRECTED ITSELF, I SAW SOMETHING... UNUSUAL IN THE SAMPLE I HAD.

I WAS CONCERNED IT MIGHT BE A SIDE EFFECT OF SOME KIND, SO I SENT IT TO A CONTACT IN THE GOVERNMENT WHO KNEW SYMBIOTE BIOLOGY.



I DIDN'T REALIZE WHAT IT MEANT UNTIL LATER, AND BY THEN IT WAS TOO LATE.

YOU HAVEN'T BEEN BACK IN WEEKS. I HAVE NO WAY TO CALL YOU.

FRANKLY I'M INSULTED THAT YOU'D THINK I'D BETRAY ONE OF MY FEW FRIENDS.



WELL, THAT'S GOOD TO HEAR. WE NEED ALL THE FRIENDS WE CAN GET.



BECAUSE WE ARE ABOUT TO HAVE THIS BABY RIGHT NOW.



AAAAAGGH!

WHY...WHY
IS THIS SO
HARD THIS
TIME?

WHEN
CARNAGE
SPAWNED WE
BARELY FELT ANYTHING.
WE DIDN'T EVEN
KNOW.

THAT WAS
BEFORE YOUR
SYMBIOTE HAD ITS
OTHER CHILDREN
FORCIBLY REMOVED
IN A LAB.

BEFORE IT
VISITED ITS HOME
PLANET AND WAS RE-
EXPOSED TO ANCESTRAL
ENVIRONMENTS, BEFORE
YOUR OWN METABOLIC
POISONING, BEFORE A
LOT OF THINGS.

YOU NEED
TO **SEPARATE**
FROM YOUR SYMBIOTE
WHILE THIS IS HAPPENING.
I'M WORRIED YOU'RE
GOING TO GO INTO
ORGAN FAILURE OR
SUFFER A
STROKE.

IF
YOU GO INTO
CARDIAC ARREST
WHILE ATTACHED
TO YOUR
SUIT...

NO,
EDDIE!

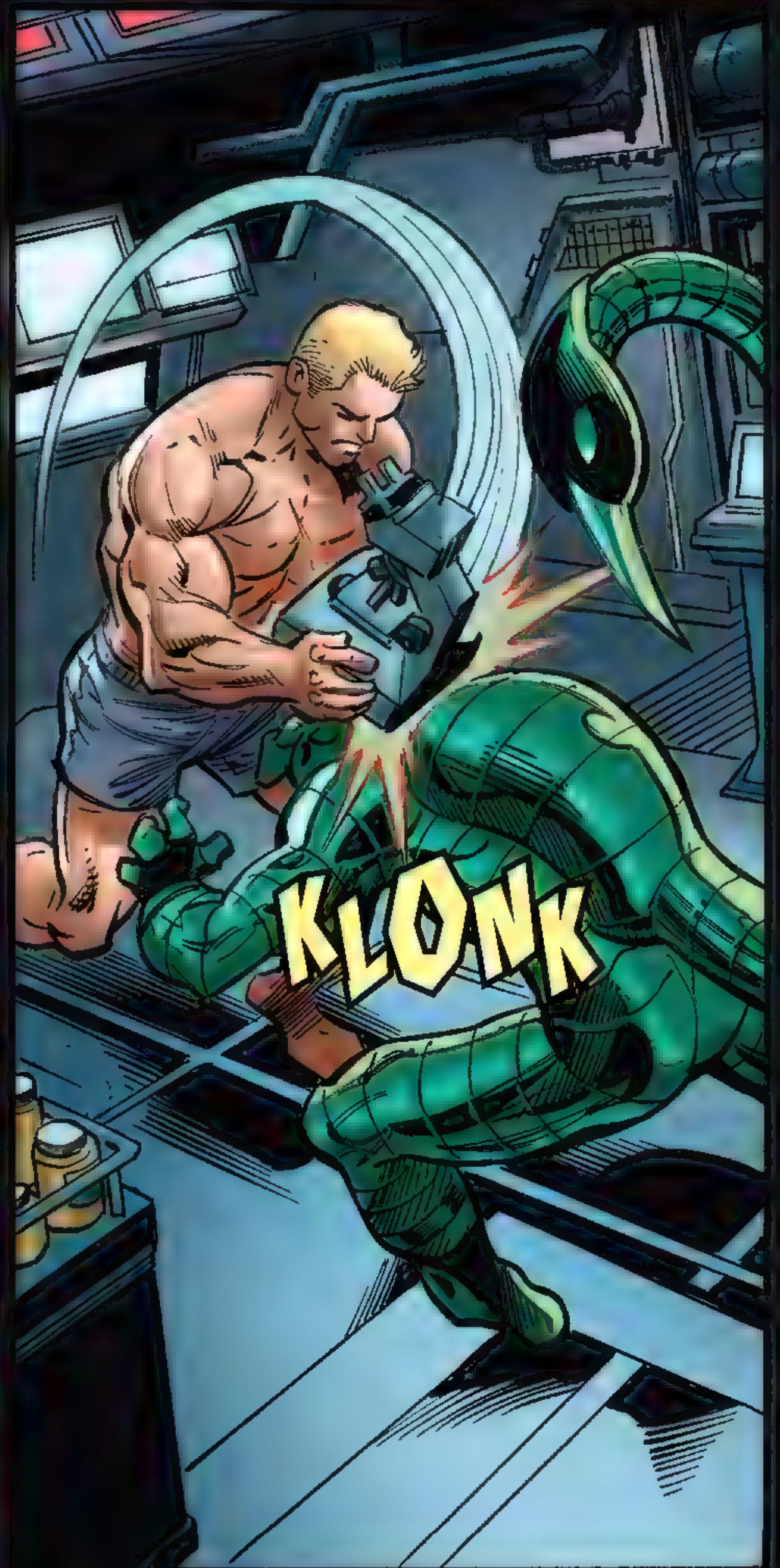
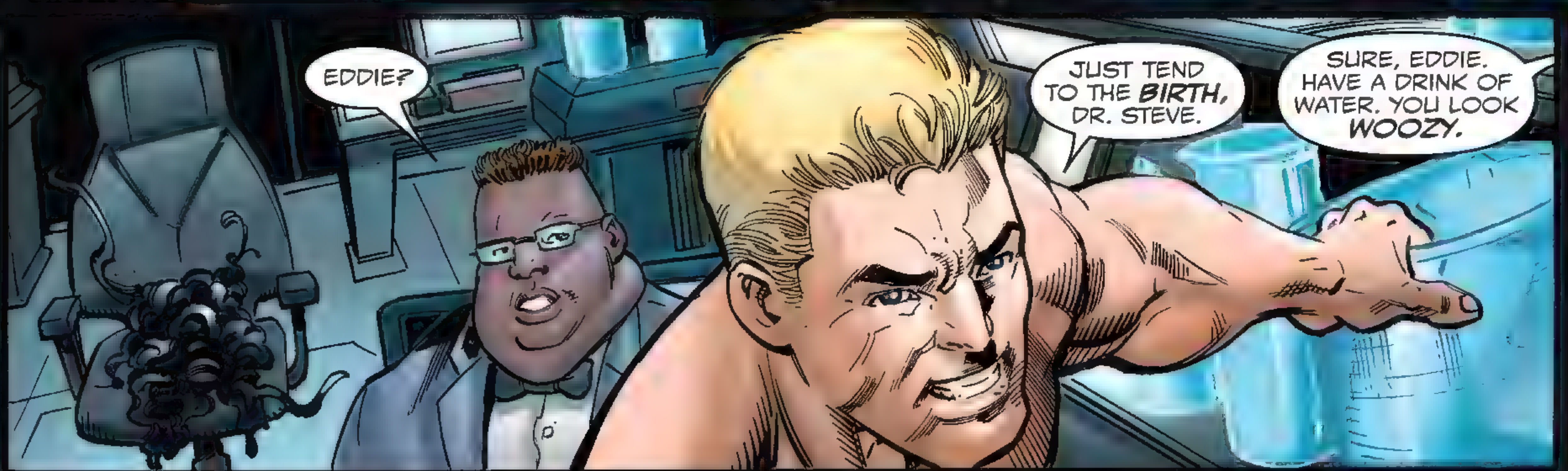
YES.

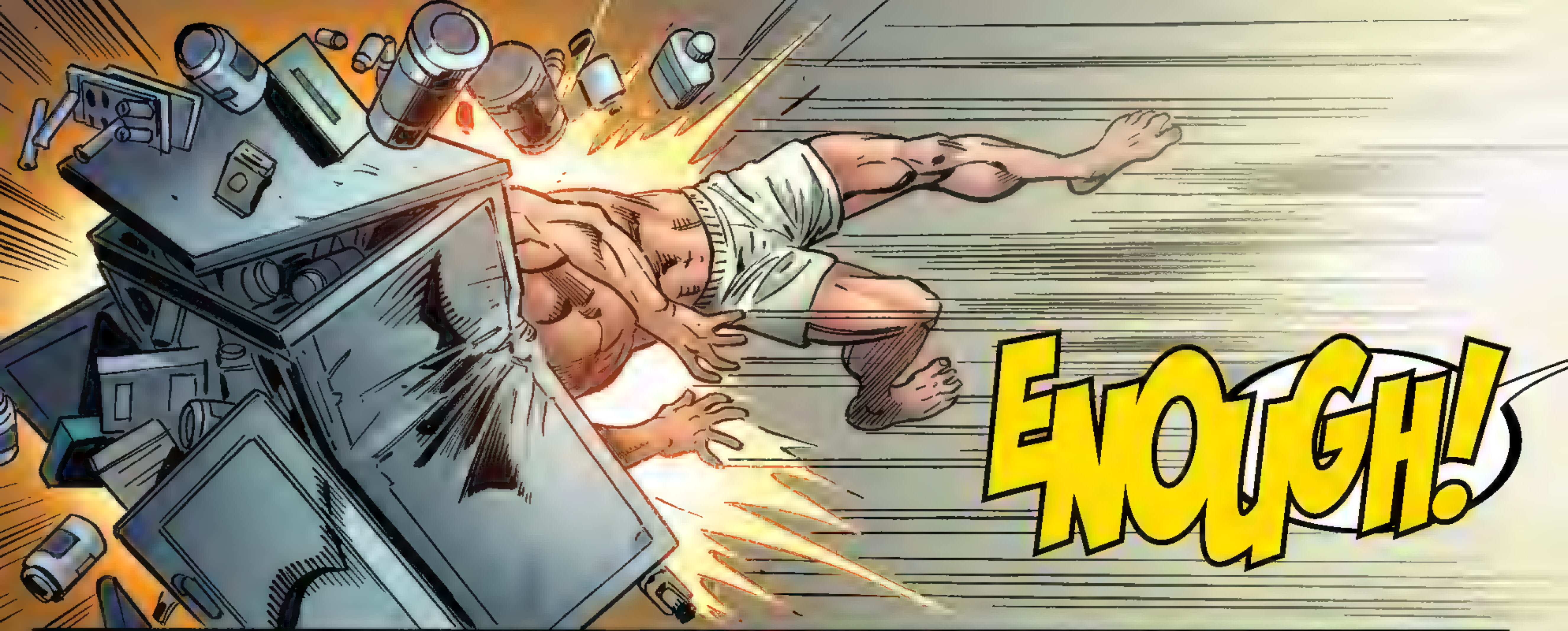
NO! NEED
TO STAY
WITH YOU!

I'M RIGHT
HERE. I'M NOT
LEAVING.

BUT I CAN'T
PROTECT YOU IF
I'M UNCONSCIOUS
OR DEAD.

OH,
HOW TRUE
THAT IS.





ENOUGH!

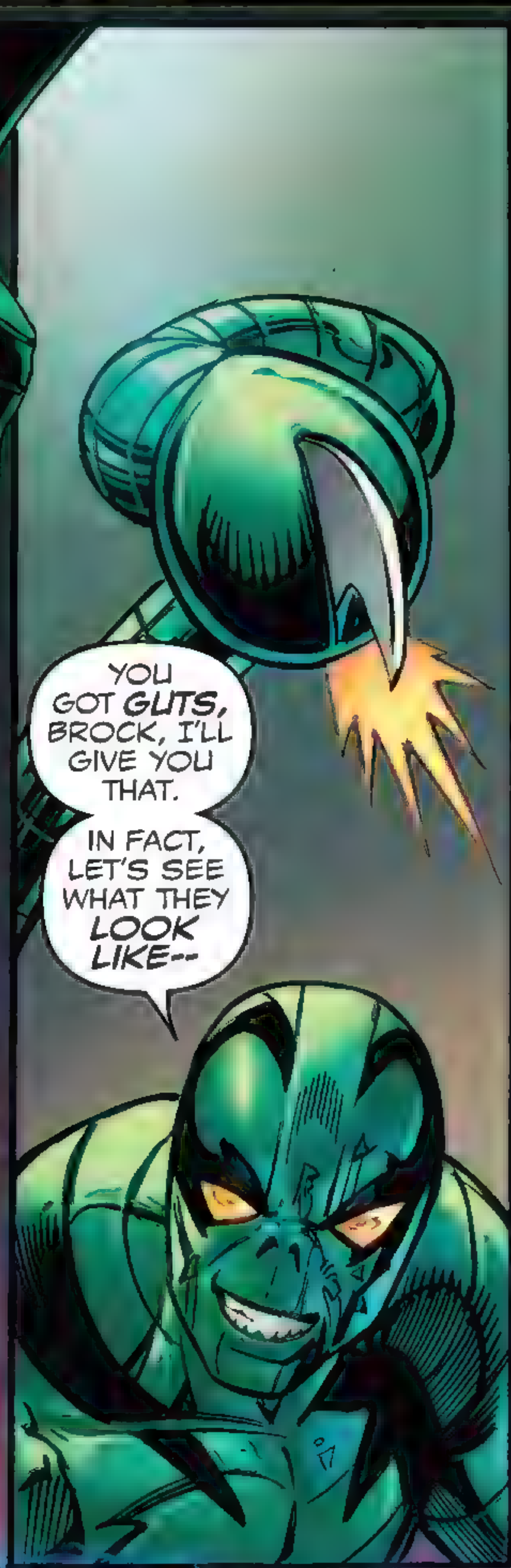


I HOPE YOU'RE STILL **CONSCIOUS** OVER THERE, BROCK. I WANT YOU TO **WATCH** WHILE I KILL THAT %&#% **SUIT** OF YOURS AND TAKE ITS **SPAWN**.

...NOT...

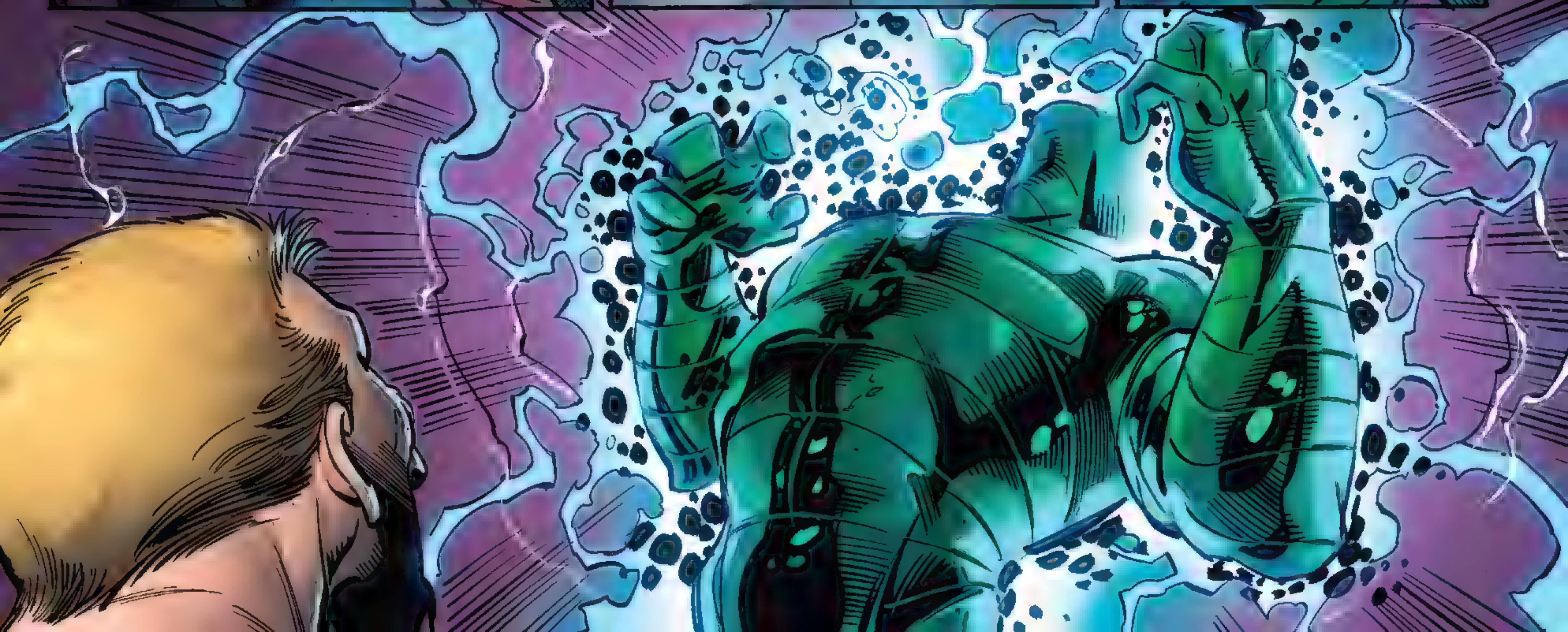


...NOT WHILE I'M STILL **STANDING**.



YOU GOT **GLITS**, BROCK, I'LL GIVE YOU THAT.

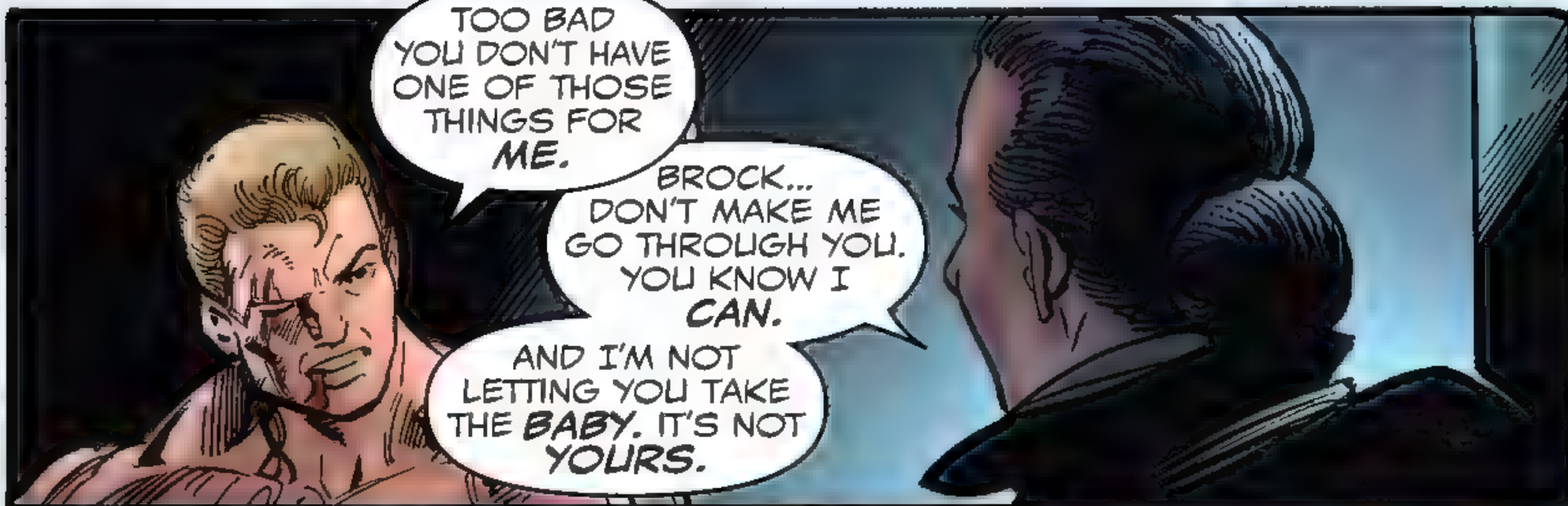
IN FACT, LET'S SEE WHAT THEY **LOOK LIKE--**





LIKE I SAID...

...HE'S CONTROLLABLE.



TOO BAD YOU DON'T HAVE ONE OF THOSE THINGS FOR ME.

BROCK... DON'T MAKE ME GO THROUGH YOU. YOU KNOW I CAN.

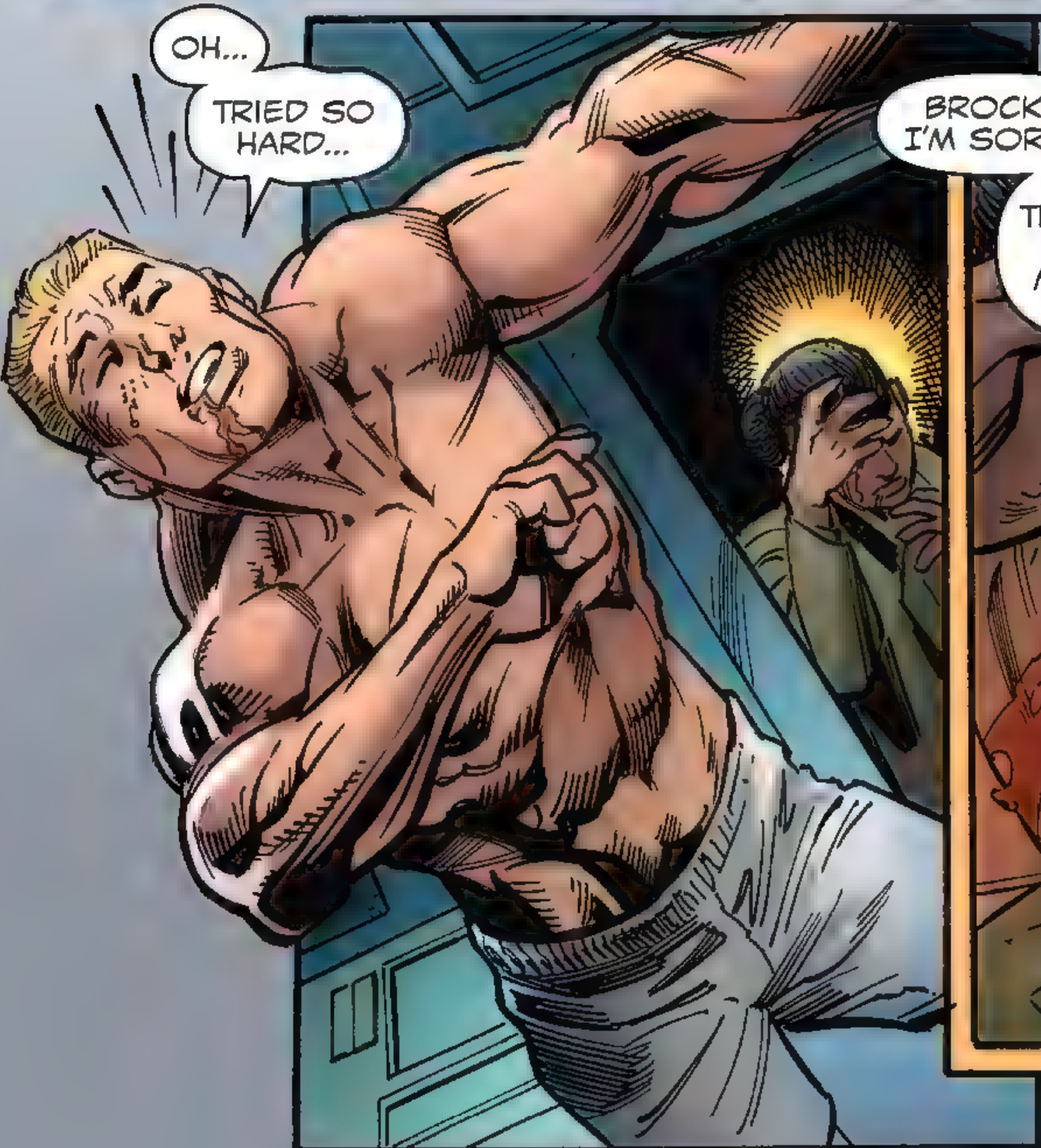
AND I'M NOT LETTING YOU TAKE THE **BABY**. IT'S NOT YOURS.



PLEASE DON'T FIGHT ANYMORE. IT'S FOR NOTHING.



IT'S A STILLBIRTH.



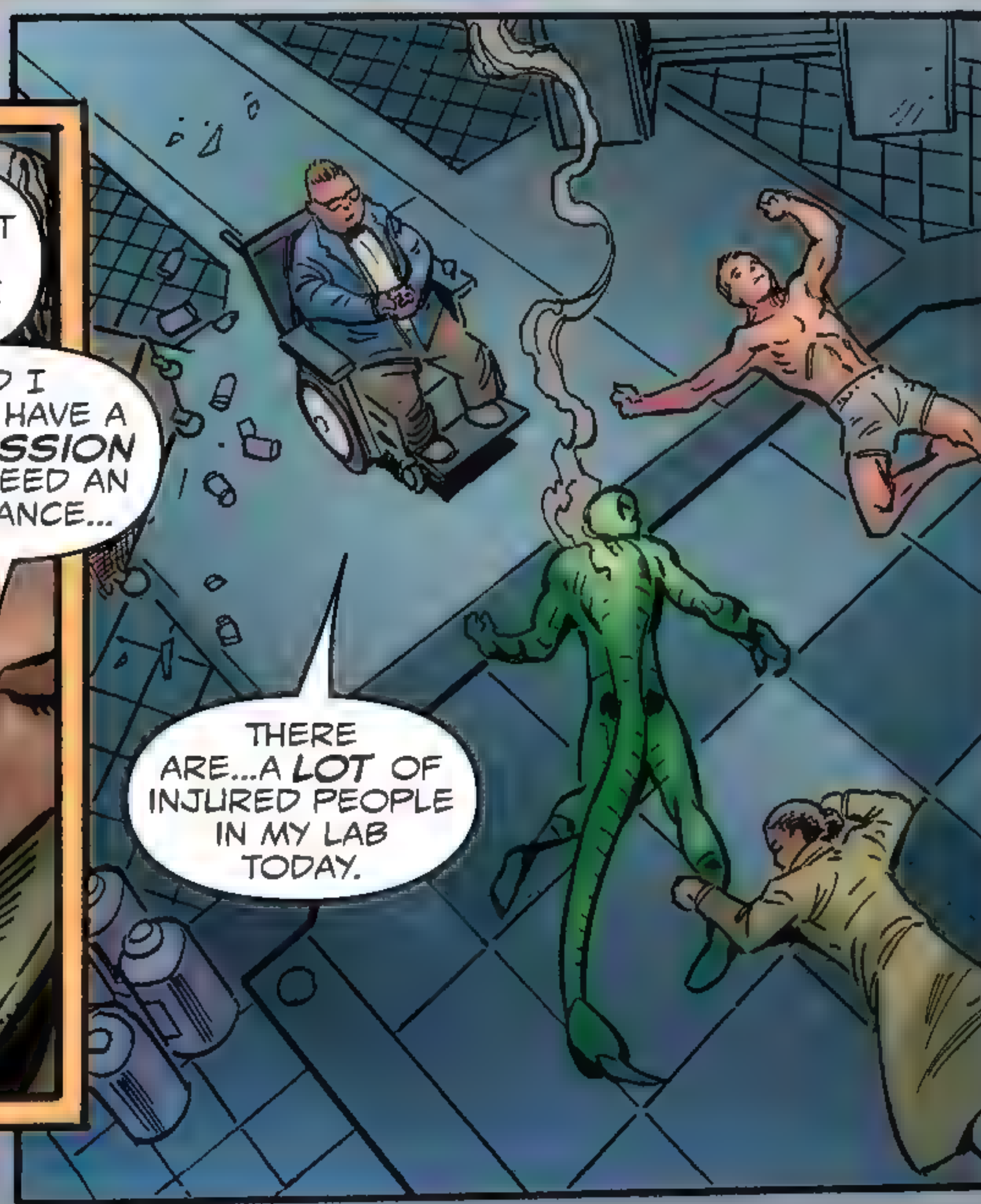
OH...

TRIED SO HARD...

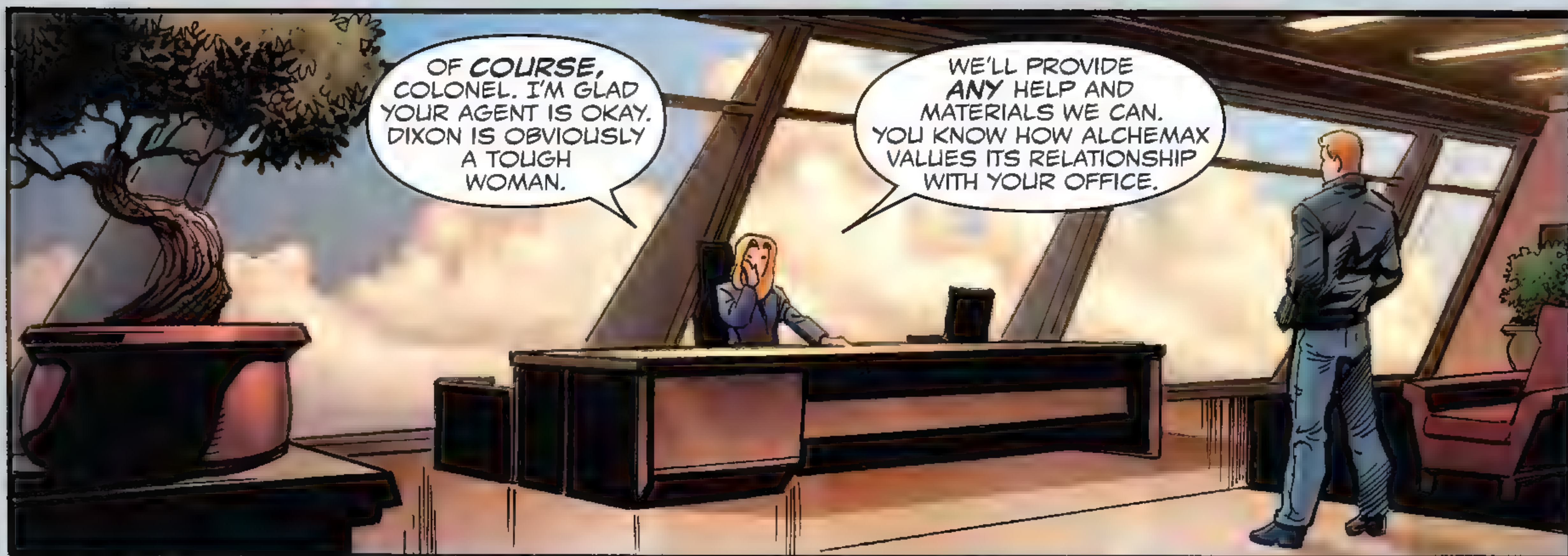
BROCK... I'M SORRY.

I KNOW THAT DOESN'T COUNT FOR MUCH, BUT I AM.

AND I THINK I HAVE A **CONCUSSION** AND I NEED AN AMBULANCE...

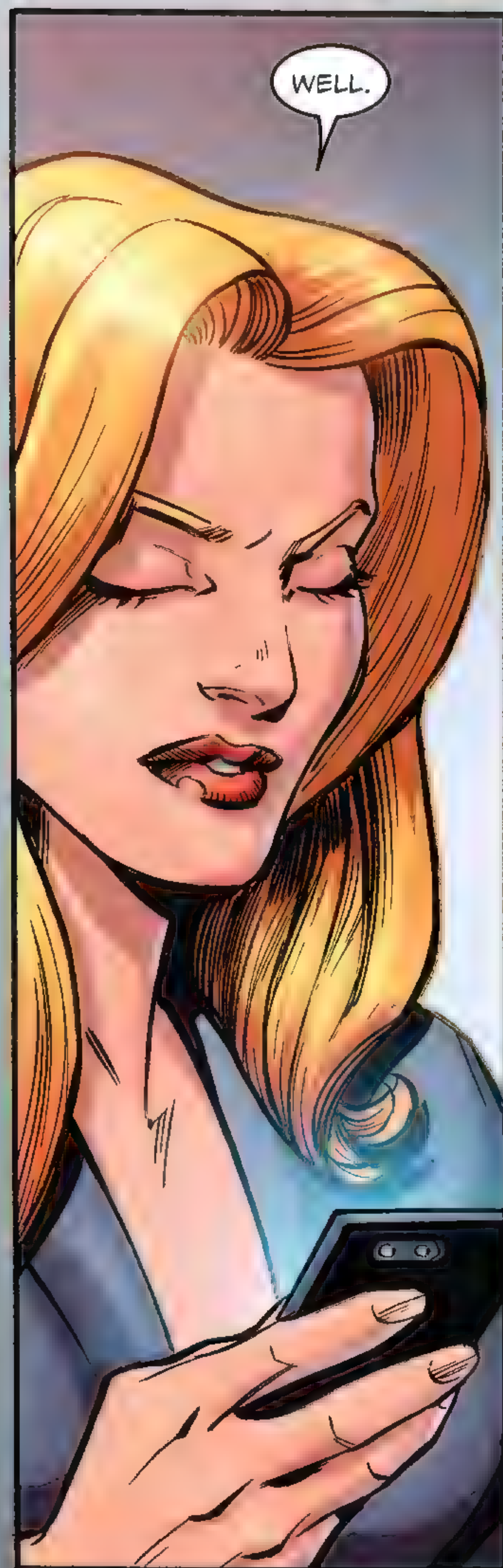


THERE ARE...A LOT OF INJURED PEOPLE IN MY LAB TODAY.



OF COURSE, COLONEL. I'M GLAD YOUR AGENT IS OKAY. DIXON IS OBVIOUSLY A TOUGH WOMAN.

WE'LL PROVIDE ANY HELP AND MATERIALS WE CAN. YOU KNOW HOW ALCHEMAX VALUES ITS RELATIONSHIP WITH YOUR OFFICE.



WELL.



NEXT TIME, MAYBE YOU WANT TO **BURN DOWN MY HOUSE**, BROCK? HOW ABOUT GETTING MY KID EXPELLED FROM **SCHOOL**?

IT'S GETTING **DIFFICULT** FOR YOU TO KEEP TOPPING YOURSELF WITH THE **TROUBLE** YOU CAUSE ME.

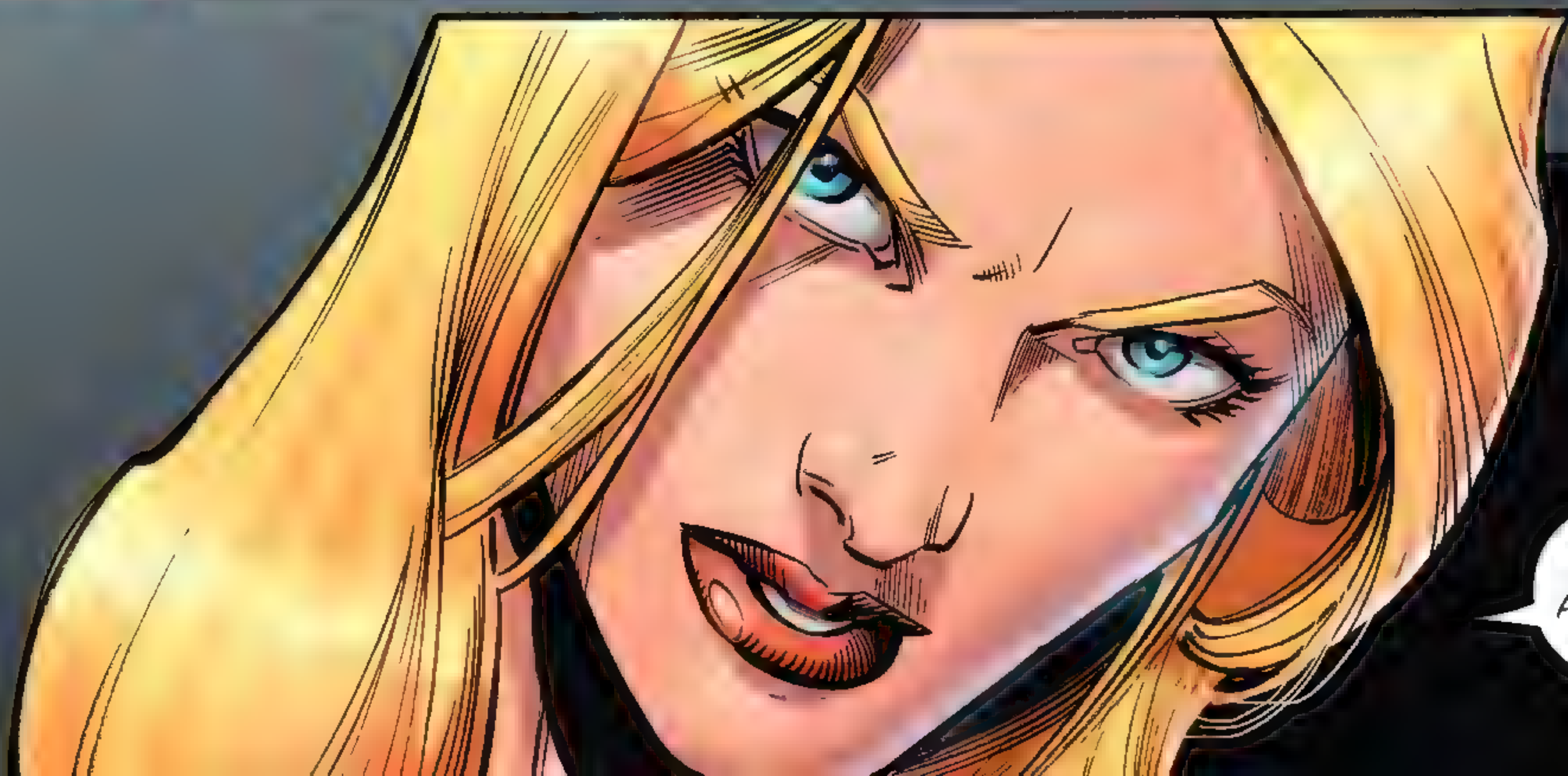
AW. COME ON.



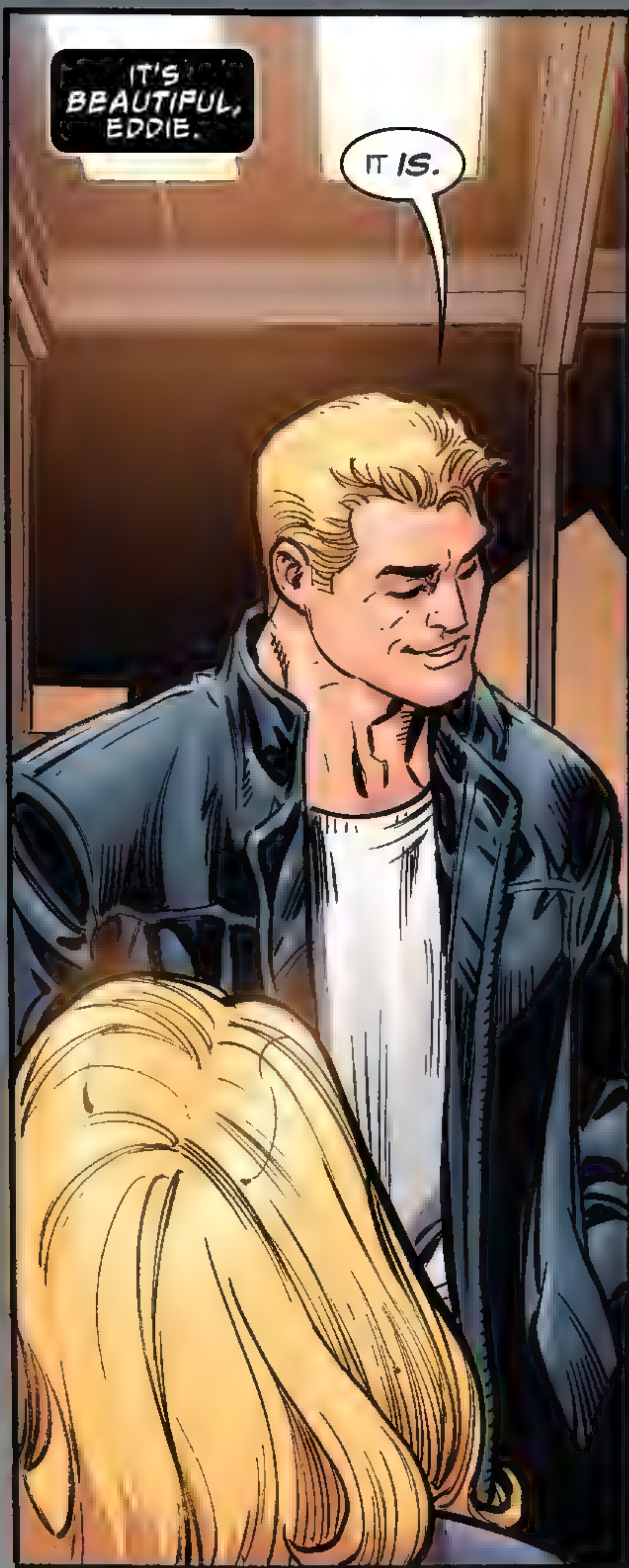
YOU GOT TO PUT **GARGAN** AWAY. THAT HAD TO FEEL GOOD.

OKAY. THAT DID.

BUT NOT ENOUGH TO MAKE UP FOR TRASHING MY LAB AGAIN.

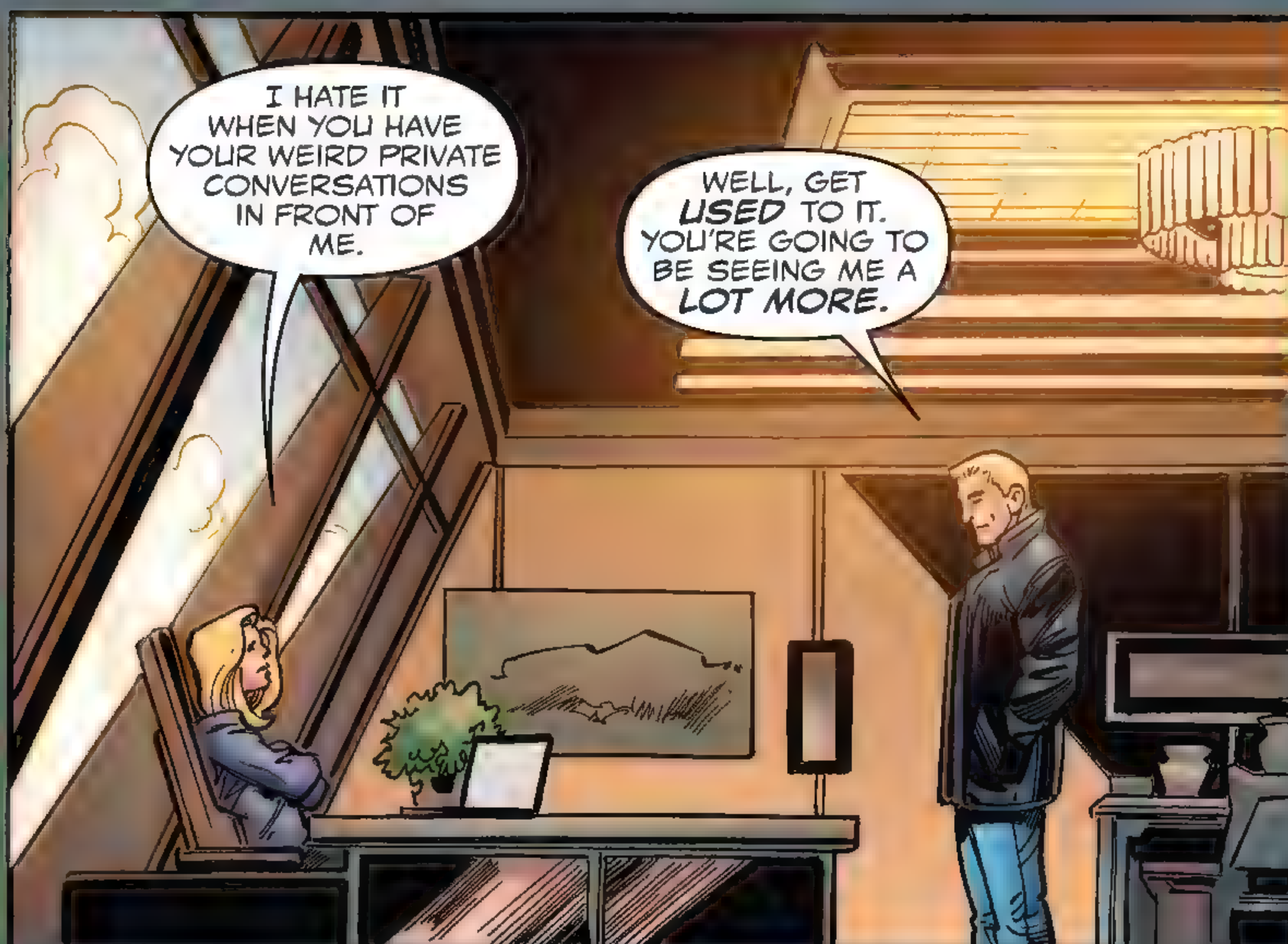


OR FOR LYING TO THE **U.S. GOVERNMENT** ABOUT KEEPING A **BABY EXTRATERRESTRIAL** THEY WANT.



IT'S
BEAUTIFUL,
EDDIE.

IT IS.



I HATE IT
WHEN YOU HAVE
YOUR WEIRD PRIVATE
CONVERSATIONS
IN FRONT OF
ME.

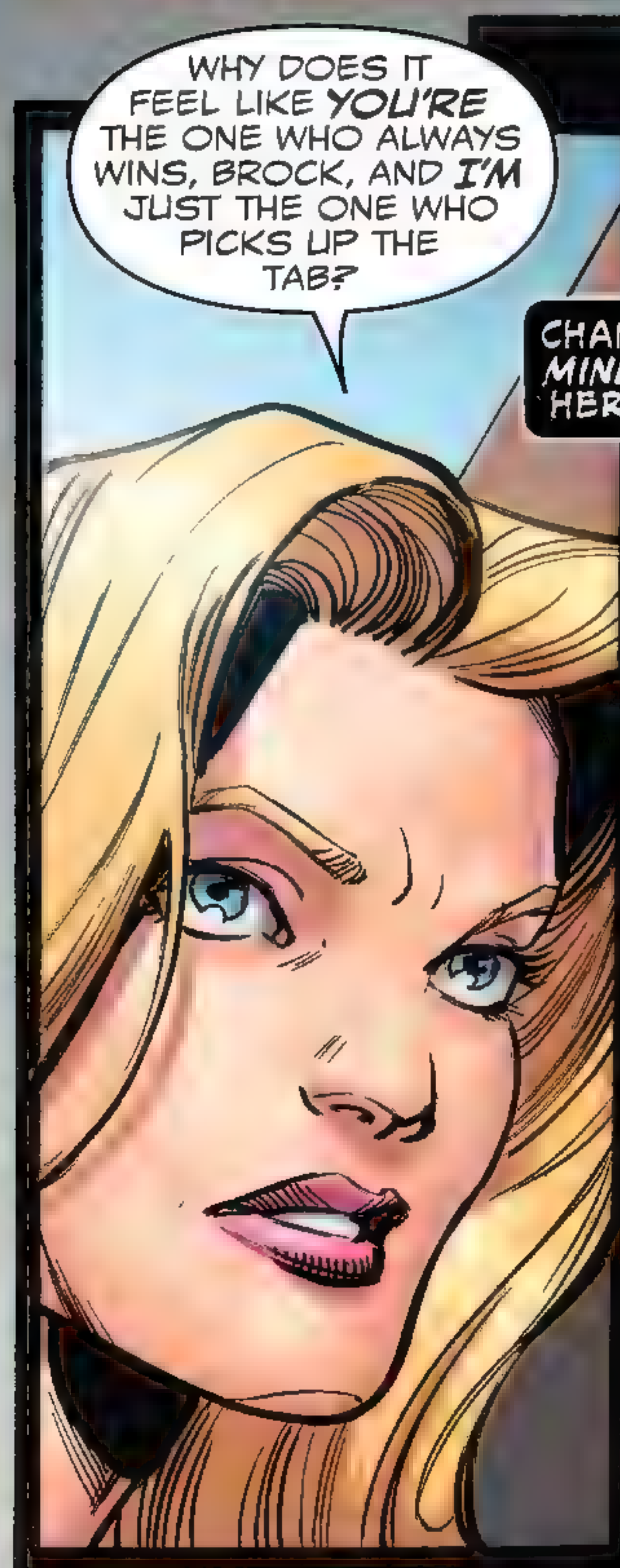
WELL, GET
USED TO IT.
YOU'RE GOING TO
BE SEEING ME A
LOT MORE.



WE'RE
COMING
BY **TWICE** A WEEK
TO SPEND TIME WITH
IT. TO MAKE SURE
IT GROWS UP
RIGHT.

THERE WILL
BE **NO** HOST UNTIL
WE DECIDE THE CHILD
IS **READY** TO BOND
WITH SOMEONE.

UNTIL THEN,
YOU KEEP IT
SAFE FOR US,
AND YOU GET TO
STUDY IT-**NON-
INVASIVELY**.
EVERYBODY
WINS.



WHY DOES IT
FEEL LIKE **YOU'RE**
THE ONE WHO ALWAYS
WINS, BROCK, AND I'M
JUST THE ONE WHO
PICKS UP THE
TAB?

CHANGED MY
MIND ABOUT
HER, EDDIE.



YOU'RE A
BORN **SUGAR-
MAMA**,
LIZ.

LIKE LIZ
NOW.



DR. STEVE.

PEACE,
BROTHER.

LIKE PAT
DOCTOR.

UNDERSTAND IT
DOESN'T HAVE TO
JUST BE ME AND YOU.

UNDERSTAND...

FAMILY.

THE END.

3/11/11
S. Hanna



Eddie's Clubhouse

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And that's that! After a year and a half, this chapter of Venom's saga comes to a close -- but fear not, Venomaniacs! I can't say much just yet, but I can promise you that we've got big, BIG plans for your favorite wicked web-slinger, and Eddie Brock, the symbiote and even its latest offspring will all be back for more adventures soon!

Enough teasing, though -- this is a special issue, so let's get right to your letters!

Dear Mike,

Thank you for gifting me with this amazing piece of literature that is VENOM. I am astounded you were able to bring Eddie and his "bud" to life and show his world in a beautiful light. Thank you.

From a beloved fan,
Alex P.



Dear Eddie's Clubhouse,

I am a huge Marvel fan and Venom is my favorite comic book character. I guess you could say I have always been "attached" to Venom and his wild adventures with Eddie Brock. I can't wait to see what crazy journeys and extreme battles Eddie and the symbiote are pulled into next.

'Nuff Said!

Ciaran R.

Ottawa, Ontario, Canada

Hah! Attached! I get it! Thanks for reading and writing, Ciaran! We hope you've enjoyed this story -- as for what kind of crazy journeys the symbiote's getting pulled into next... Heh. Just you wait and see!

Hey, Venom Team!

It was about a year ago that we saw Eddie Brock make his return in a VENOM comic in VENOM #5, I remember seeing it teased in February 2017 and I still have the flyer up on my wall. It was the best birthday gift I could have asked for! Seeing Spidey caught between a "Brock" and a hard place in "Venom Inc." was also super enjoyable, and the entire story was just exploding with charm and character.

I'm so grateful to see Eddie reunite with his one true love and I'm also so grateful that my favorite fictional character has been handled by such awesome people!

Mark J.
United Kingdom

Hey, Mark! Thanks for reading, for writing and for being one of the Mighty Marvel faithful. AND CONGRATULATIONS! You're the FIRST-EVER winner of the CUWAPMTBTOAMA Cup! That's Come Up With A Pun That Might Be The Title Of A Marvel Arc -- a contest I just came up with after reading your letter! Longtime readers

already know what a sucker I am for puns, and I especially love it when we can use them as story titles. So keep your eyes peeled, Mark! You may just see a VENOM collection entitled "A Brock and A Hard Place" on store shelves soon! Congratulations!

Hello, Venom People!

My name is Brandon Forleo and I've been loving this current VENOM series. Eddie and his symbiote have grown as characters in a great way.

This comic means a lot to me. Venom has been a part of my life since I was a young child. I'm autistic and life has been a massive struggle. For years my autism has been messing with my education, anxiety, emotion and sensitivity. I've always connected with how Eddie has had to deal with (sometimes angry) split personalities and those sorts of issues. Obviously, my problems never involved dealing with a hunger for brains or obsessively wanting Spider-Man dead, but the way Venom has grown and developed has showed me that I can overcome my problems.

I grew up loving the '90s VENOM comics and spent my childhood doing countless Venom drawings. Venom is my favorite super hero and I hope to be involved on a Venom-related project someday. I'm currently in college, making my way to becoming a comic/animation artist.

Brandon F.

Thanks for reading, Brandon, and for writing. It always means a lot to us here at The House of Ideas when we hear that the comics and stories we publish matter to you readers out there in Mighty Marveldom -- there really is no better feeling in the world for us editors. I know I say that a lot, but that doesn't make it any less true! Especially when they're letters from people like you, who are out there, inspired and following your dreams. KEEP IT UP!

But you readers aren't the only folks who these characters matter to. We comics pros all started off as fans, too, and Mike Costa has gotta be one of the biggest Venom fans I know. For this, his final issue of the series, he wanted to include a note to you readers who've been with this story from the beginning.

There have been a lot of super hero romances in the Marvel Universe. Peter and Gwen. Scott and Jean. Matt Murdock and... everyone. But there is only one super hero story that IS a romance, and that's Venom.

I tried, in between the foiled bank robberies, the experimental chemicals, dinosaur fights and crossovers (the other components of all great super hero stories), to explore as much of that

romance as possible. The nervous night in the afterglow of the first reunion. The former partners returning to make trouble. The sense that you are the only two people that matter in the world as you (literally) share your dreams, and the dizzy euphoria and creeping dread of a dysfunctional -- maybe even toxic -- relationship.

But at the end, it's all about love, and so I've left Eddie and the symbiote, on this final page, as happy as maybe they've ever been. It probably won't last -- when you're a hulking, fanged, outer space monster riding on the skin of a borderline sociopath bodybuilder, drama tends to find you -- but every couple deserves at least a few moments of pure happiness in the long and ragged campaign of their love affair. For the moment, I'm leaving Venom his (their?) happy ending.

It's been wonderful to see how many people ended up believing in this relationship as much as I did, but obviously I had help. Gerardo's dynamism, Paulo's gorgeous figure work, Javier's slick action and of course Mark's legendary storytelling. Because of all of those guys, the response to this book has been more than I could have ever hoped for, which brings us to the most crucial relationship in all of comics: the one between us creators and you readers. I don't want to romanticize it too much -- but the book, and hopefully the story, gives you what you want. It's the oldest profession in the world, maybe. But I did it for love, baby.

Mike Costa

As Mike points out, comics are a team effort, and for this particular VENOM series, we were fortunate enough to welcome a number of artists, some already synonymous with Eddie Brock's alter ego, and others who were dipping their toe in the inky black Venom pool for the first time.

From Gerardo Sandoval's work on Lee Price's time as Venom, to the handful of artists who came aboard for single issue stories, like Tradd Moore, Paulo Siqueira and Javier Garrón, to the artists who made the series' crossovers just a bit more Venomous, Ryan Stegman and Edgar Salazar, and the return of Mark Bagley to the slobbering symbiote -- these have been some of the most artistically diverse issues in Venom's storied history, and it's been such a treat not only working on them, but seeing how you readers out there in Marveldom responded to each issue! Even Venom veteran scribe Cullen Bunn was able to get in on the action with "Poison-X"!

The work of each of these artists was complemented by the work of Dono Sánchez-Almara, one of the best colorists in the biz, who we were fortunate to have aboard as colorist for nearly every issue of this epic run. Dono wanted to share some thoughts on the series as well --



Eddie's Clubhouse

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SEND E-MAILS TO SPIDEYOFFICE@MARVEL.COM (PLEASE MARK "OKAY TO PRINT"!)!

Life has great rewards in store for you if you stick to your dreams and fight for them no matter what. Period.

I remember being a fan of Mr. Bagley's work during his Maximum Carnage run quite some years ago. I used to watch his lines very closely and to me, he always seemed to be one of Marvel's the most representative artists, with a consistent and well defined graphic style. Many years of hard work and learning had to happen to find myself in front of Mark's work again. This time at a whole other level that I was not expecting at all.

You can imagine my reaction when Devin and Tom invited me to collaborate in this series with him ... I was blown away!! I think I'm still assimilating the whole thing and still pinching my arm from time to time.

Undoubtedly, these issues have been some of the most rewarding of my career, and I've given my best effort to make this journey as awesome for you as it has been for me. In the end, all this is for you, fellas. You, the readers, are who make the long days of work and the extra sweat worthwhile. It is you who complete the final part of the circle in this fascinating process of creating called COMICS. This is all for you. If you are happy, our job is done.

Thanks to the amazing work of Mike and Mark, there were so many great moments during this series that were as exciting, fun and challenging to me as a Color Artist, that I'll treasure this experience for many years to come. I sincerely hope this has been a great and fun ride for them as well.

Thank you so much for jumping aboard with us. Until our next adventure!

But that can't be all, can it? After these 22 issues and two epic event series, are Venom's adventures done forever?!

NOT BLOODY LIKELY!

Because, as returning Venomaniacs are no doubt aware, next month is an epic birthday for the wicked web-slinger -- the 30th Anniversary of his first full appearance!

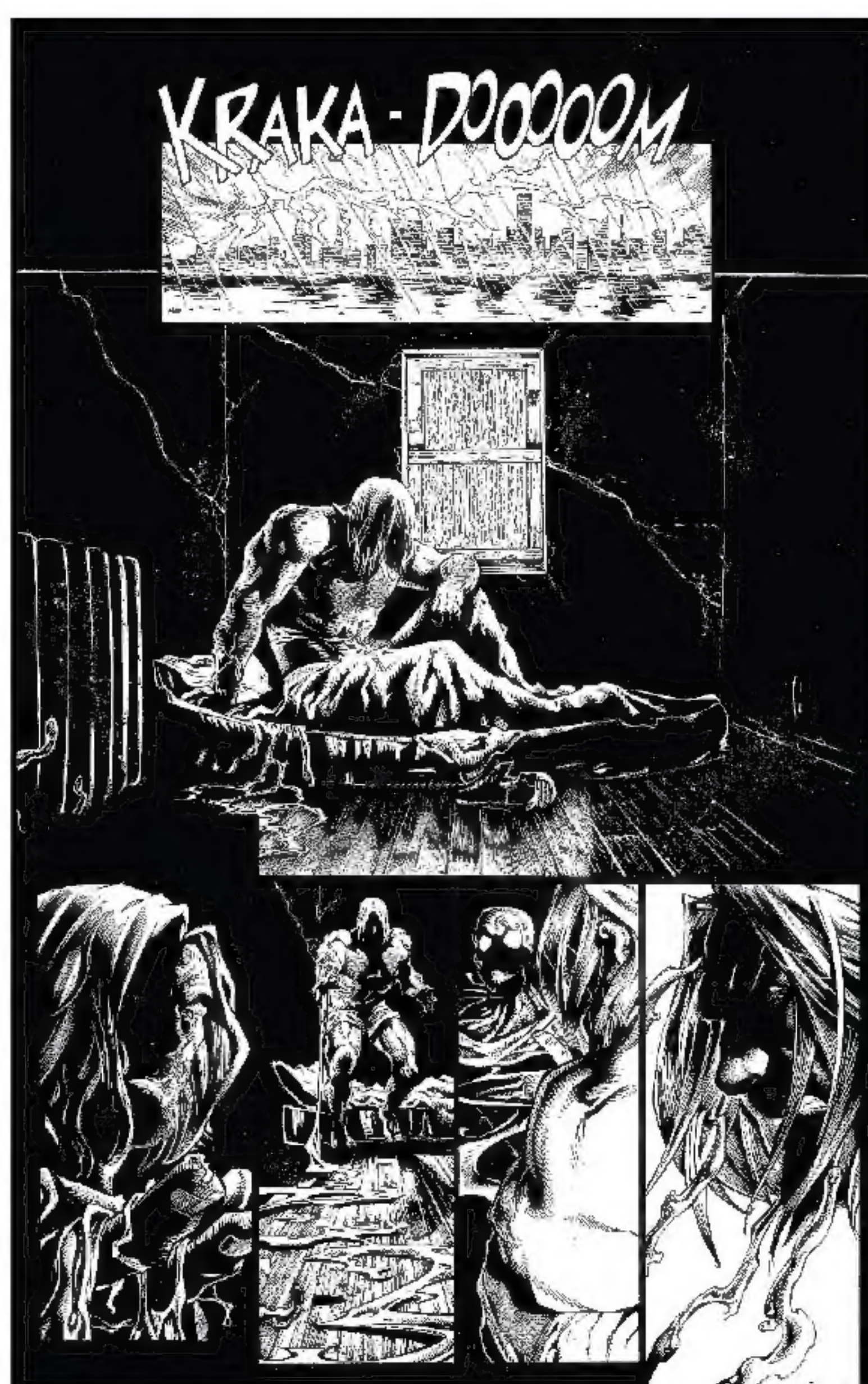
Dedicated Venomophiles will know this already, but for the uninitiated, Venom served as the antagonist of THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #300. Released in May of 1988, that was the first full issue the character appeared in, after a deliciously creepy cameo in the previous month's ASM #299.

Written by David Michelinie and illustrated by Todd McFarlane, ASM #300 was a landmark

issue, and if you haven't read it, what're you WAITING FOR?! It's got as much Venom goodness as you could ever ask for -- all free of that hideous tongue!

But birthdays aren't just for thinking about the past -- they're also when we need to take time to consider the future, and all of us here at Venom HQ have been cooking up some very exciting plans for Venom's, the first of which will be on sale next month... VENOM #1!

From Donny Cates and Ryan Stegman, VENOM #1 is the first chapter in a brand-new VENOM saga that's been a thousand years in the making...and it's a BEAUT!



You've probably already read some snippets from Donny and Ryan about the series on your favorite comics news site (or heard them, if you tune into Ryan's weekly livestream on YouTube [which you should {because it's awesome!}!]), but one question has kept coming up time and again --

Will Eddie Brock/Venom be evil in this series?

We've already gotten about two dozen letters since the series was announced, imploring us not to push Eddie down a path of wickedness.

Now, this ain't our first letter column, so we both know that I'm not going to go blabbing about the main plot of Donny and Ryan's arc here, BUT! What I can say is that the story Donny and Ryan have crafted is deeply emotional, and not just respectful but reverent

of all the VENOM series that have come before it, including the comics mag you're holding in your hands RIGHT NOW!

As for just what kind of emotions they'll be dealing with, and the effect they'll have on Eddie Brock and his extraterrestrial ally... Well, you'll just have to keep reading!

ITEM: Still need a VENOM fix while you're waiting for VENOM #1? Well, are you in luck! Because JUST THIS WEEK the fourth and penultimate issue of Cullen Bunn's epic VENOMIZED is on sale!

For those of you who've been living under a rock, VENOMIZED is the terrifying follow-up to VENOMVERSE!

The deadly Poisons have launched an all-out assault on the Marvel Universe, and have already claimed a handful of Marvel Universe heroes and villains as their own...including none other than Cletus Kasady, A.K.A. Carnage.

VENOMIZED #4 is on sale now, and the event's finale lands on store shelves NEXT WEEK! Tell your shop to add it to your pull list!



All right! That's all the space we've got for this one, Venomaniacs!

Keep reading, keep writing and keep your eyes peeled for more Venomous Anniversary surprises!

Stay sharp!
Devin
@edevinlewis

VENOM #1



ON SALE NEXT MONTH!

